City of Lafayette Staff Report

For:	City Council
By:	Leah C. Greenblat, Transportation Planner
Date Written:	April 3, 2009
Meeting Date:	April 13, 2009
Subject:	Letter of Support for Springhill Road Walkway Project Safe Routes to School Grant Application

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Introduction / Discussion

The Master Walkways Plan contains a project to construct a walkway on Springhill Road. Staff and the Circulation Commission support applying for state Safe Routes to School funds to implement the project. It would be very beneficial to the competitiveness of the application to include a letter of support from the City Council. Staff has prepared a draft letter, attached, for your consideration. The grant along with letters of support are due April 15, 2009.

Fiscal Impact

None. If the City is selected to receive grant funding, then a 10% local match is required. Staff is still developing a cost estimate for the project, but at this time, we estimate the local match to be in the $25,000 range.

Recommendation

1. Authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for Safe Routes to School funding for a walkway on Springhill Road

Attachments

1. Draft letter of support

c:\users\lgreenblat\documents\leah's work files\city council\staff reports\2009\sr2s ltr of support.doc

10K

April 14, 2009

Sylvia Fung
District 4 Office of Local Assistance Engineer
Caltrans District 4 Office
111 Grand Ave.
PO BOX 23660
Oakland, CA 94623

Dear Ms. Fung:

The Lafayette City Council wholly and enthusiastically supports the Springhill Road Access and Safety Walkway Project. This project resulted from a cooperative process among neighbors, school parents, the Lafayette Police Department, Engineering Division and Circulation Commission who worked together to improve and provide safe routes to walk and bike to nearby schools.

Springhill Elementary and Acalanes High School are adjacent to Pleasant Hill Road, a major, regional arterial roadway that suffers from severe traffic congestion. The City is always interested in improving pedestrian safety, but this project has the potential to do even more. While the project goes a long way towards providing the infrastructure needed to help residents, parents and students all feel comfortable walking and biking to local schools and other nearby destinations, it can also help reduce vehicle trips in this traffic congested neighborhood. .

On behalf of the Lafayette City Council, we hope you will join us in seeing the extreme merit of this project by awarding it with Safe Routes to School funds.

Sincerely,

Don Tatzin
Mayor